



NORTH CAROLINA
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
of the COURTS

2014 Report on Court Information Technology Fund [G.S. 7A-343.2]

August 1, 2014



INTRODUCTION

The North Carolina Administrative Office of the Courts (NCAOC) is required to report annually to the General Assembly on the Court Information Technology Fund. Specifically, G.S. 7A-343.2 provides as follows:

§ 7A-343.2 Court Information Technology Fund

(c) Report. – The Director must report annually by August 1 of each year to the Chairs of the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Justice and Public Safety and the Chairs of the Senate and House Appropriations Subcommittees on Justice and Public Safety. The report must include the following:

- (1) Amounts credited in the preceding fiscal year to the Fund.
- (2) Amounts expended in the preceding fiscal year from the Fund and the purposes of the expenditures.
- (3) Proposed expenditures of the monies in the Fund.

This report is intended to meet the statutory requirement.

ANALYSIS

The Fund consists of designated facilities fees¹ generated from court costs and fees for remote public access.² Per G.S. 7A-343.2(b), money from the Fund is used to upgrade, maintain, and operate the judicial and county courthouse phone systems, and to supplement funds otherwise available to the Judicial Branch for technology needs.

The tables below represent the amounts credited and the amounts expended for FY 2013–14, and the proposed expenditures of monies in the Fund for FY 2014–15.

Table 1. Amounts Credited to the Court Information Technology Fund (FY 2013–14)

AMOUNTS CREDITED / SOURCE	AMOUNT
Remote public access – online access fees	\$ 8,018,952
Remote public access – extracts fees	\$ 216,043
Facilities fees for telephone system replacement and maintenance	\$ 5,119,873
Interest	\$ 51,447
TOTAL	\$ 13,406,315

¹ See G.S. 7A-304(a)(2a), -305(a3)(2), -306(a)(1a), and -307(a)(1a).

² See G.S. 7A-109(d).



Table 2. Amounts Expended from the Court Information Technology Fund (FY 2013–14)

EXPENDITURE	PURPOSE	AMOUNT
Personnel	Augment personnel to support ongoing technology programs and services	\$ 5,048,997
Purchased services	Provide services, including telephone services, required to ensure ongoing technology operations	\$ 5,344,563
Equipment, supplies, and other expenses	Replace obsolete computer equipment and software and purchase supplies	\$ 539,635
TOTAL		\$ 10,933,195

Table 3. Proposed Expenditure from the Court Information Technology Fund (FY 2014–15)

EXPENDITURE	PURPOSE	AMOUNT
Personnel	Augment personnel to support ongoing technology programs and services	\$ 5,649,000
Purchased services	Provide computer hardware and software maintenance and telephone services	\$ 5,344,563
Equipment	Replace obsolete computer and audiovisual equipment; upgrade and expand capacity of computer hardware and software	\$9,539,635
Contingency reserve		\$2,522,224
TOTAL		\$23,055,422

SUMMARY

NCAOC continues to use money from the Fund to provide and maintain the basic technological infrastructure and applications necessary to serve the public in courthouses and other Judicial Branch locations throughout the State. For FY 2014–15, the funds will be used for a critical technology equipment upgrade, as well as other expenses related to the personnel, services, and equipment necessary to support the administration of justice in North Carolina state courts.

